

ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING FOR FLOOD PRONE AREAS IN BIRNIN KEBBI, KEBBI STATE

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ABSTRACT

Flood is one environmental problem that occurs globally, regionally and nationally, it occurs in various ways and conditions; on large scale and urban scale. On a large scale, changes in atmospheric conditions, rainfall variations and continental drift can influence the occurrence of flood. On an urban scale, several man-made activities such as indiscriminate dumps of refuse in secondary and primary drains can cause flood. Birnin Kebbi, an urban area in Kebbi State is one urban area faced with seasonal flood disaster. This study assesses the causes and effects of flood disaster in Birnin Kebbi with a view to propose physical planning strategies in preventing and controlling flood in the study area. Two sets of questionnaires were designed and administered in this study area. One questionnaire for the identification of flood prone area and the other questionnaire was design to solicit information from agencies responsible for flood control. From the information collected from these town designed questionnaires reveals that inadequate storm water drainage are the principal cause of flood in Birnin Kebbi other causes are heavy rainfall, blocked burrow pit, poor development control practices, poor settlement planning, dumping of refuse in drainage lines and drains building construction on run – off drainage lines are others. The study suggested an integration of all flood control measures into physical development plans, planning matrix adopted for flood prone areas and the use of urban renewal strategies for settlements within the flood prone areas.

KEYWORDS: Flood, Flood Prone, Flood Control, Rainfall, Flood Prevention and Planning